

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAB-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 /081 W

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R 141445Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5799

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 10360

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, XF, LE

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 30TH UNGA

REF: BEIRUT 10052; STATE 188110

SUMMARY: LEBANESE WILL STUDY THE QUESTION BUT WE DOUBT THEY WILL CHANGE PAST BEHAVIOR OF ABSTENTION. HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT LIKELY TO SLIP INTO POSITION SUPPORTING NORTH KOREANS EITHER. MUCH WILL DEPEND (AS ALWAYS) ON WHAT OTHER ARABS DO. END SUMMARY.

1. AFTER CONSULTING WITH BRITISH AND SOUTH KOREAN "TRADE MISSION" CHIEF RESIDENT IN BEIRUT (WHO COINCIDENTALLY CALLED AT EMBASSY), DCM CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTOR HADDAD AUGUST 12 TO DISCUSS KOREAN ITEM. HADDAD MADE IT CLEAR LEBANESE MAINTAINED WHAT THEY VIEW AS IMPARTIAL POSITION BETWEEN SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA ON SUCH MATTERS, OFTEN BY ABSTAINING. HE HAD NOT BEEN TOLD OF RECENT VISIT BY NORTH KOREAN REPRESENTATIVES WHO CALLED ON HIS FOREIGN
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MINISTER. HOWEVER, HE WAS SURE NO COMMITMENT HAD BEEN

MADE TO NORTH KOREANS (AND WE INTERPRET FACT HE WAS NOT TOLD OF VISIT, EVEN THOUGH HE IS CLOSE AND TRUSTED ASSISTANT OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S, AS CONFIRMATION THAT NO COMMITMENT WAS MADE).

2. DCM TOOK LINE SUGGESTED STATE REFTTEL. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD GENERAL LEBANESE POLICY OF STRIVING FOR IMPARTIALITY BETWEEN SOUTH AND NORTH KOREAS ON QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THOSE COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, RESOLUTION NORTH KOREANS APPEAR TO BE HEADING FOR IN COMING UNGA WOULD BE AIMED PRIMARILY AT AMERICAN PRESENCE, A FACT WHICH HADDAD READILY ACKNOWLEDGED. THIS WAS ABOVE AND BEYOND THE FACT THAT US TROOPS WOULD IN ANY CASE NOT BE AFFECTED AS THEY ARE IN KOREA ON BASIS OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT, WHICH HADDAD ALSO SHOWED HE UNDERSTOOD. USG IS QUITE PREPARED TO SEE REMOVAL OF UN FORCES IN KOREA BUT THINKS IT ONLY NORMAL THAT SUCH REMOVAL SHOULD NOT AFFECT ARMISTICE AGREEMENT OF 1953. USG AND FIVE CO-SPONSORS HAVE PREPARED DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD CALL FOR REMOVAL OF UN FORCES BY JANUARY 1, 1976 PROVIDED NORTH KOREAN AND CHINESE PEOPLES' VOLUNTEER SIGNATORIES OF ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AGREED IT REMAINED IN FORCE AND APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS WERE WORKED OUT. USG HOPED THAT RECENT TALK OF POSSIBLE PEACE SETTLEMENT IN KOREA WOULD LEAD TO NEW AGREEMENT BUT IN MEANTIME ARMISTICE AGREEMENT SHOULD STAND.

3. THEREFORE, DCM CONCLUDED, USG HOPES LEBANON WILL RECOGNIZE NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION AS BASICALLY UNBALANCED AND VOTE AGAINST IT. BY SAME TOKEN, SHOULD IT PROVE USEFUL TO INTRODUCE DRAFT RESOLUTION CO-SPONSORED BY US, WE HOPE LEBANON WILL VOTE FOR IT.

4. HADDAD SEEMED IMPRESSED BY ARGUMENT AND ASKED FOR A WRITTEN SUMMARY (TOGETHER WITH COPIES OF SCALI LETTER TO UNSC PRESIDENT AND OF DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH DCM HAD ALREADY GIVEN HIM) SO THAT HE MIGHT PREPARE A MEMORANDUM TO FOREIGN MINISTER TAQLA. SUCH WRITTEN SUMMARY IN FORM OF "BOUT DE PAPIER" HAS JUST BEEN DELIVERED TO HIM.

5. AFTER HEARING OUR ACCOUNT OF MEETING, BRITISH DCM
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HAS AGREED TO RAISE MATTER HIMSELF WITH HADDAD EARLY
NEXT WEEK.

6. IN SHORT DISCUSSION OF TACTICAL SITUATION RELATING TO KOREAN REPRESENTATION AT FORTHCOMING LIMA NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE, DCM TOOK NO POSITION BEYOND ENCOURAGING LEBANESE TO GIVE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO ARGUMENTS THAT MIGHT BE PRESENTED BY VISITING SOUTH KOREAN VICE

FOREIGN MINISTER WHO IS DUE HERE SUNDAY, AUGUST 17.
HADDAD PROFESSED TO BE UNINFORMED ON WHERE TACTICAL
SITUATION PRESENTLY STOOD, THOUGH HE INDICATED BELIEF
NON-ALIGNED WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE ACCEPTING NORTH KOREAN
PRESENCE BUT MIGHT REJECT SOUTH KOREANS.

7. COMMENT: WE HAVE VIEWED THIS PRIMARILY AS DAMAGE-
LIMITING EXERCISE, IN CASE NORTH KOREANS MADE IMPRINT
HERE WITH THEIR ARGUMENTS. WHILE HADDAD SOUNDED IMPRES-
SED, WE ARE SKEPTICAL THAT LEBANESE WOULD SEE THEIR WAY
CLEAR TO DO ANYTHING BEYOND ABSTAINING ON ALL RESOLUTIONS
INTRODUCED ON THIS QUESTION IN NEXT UNGA. THIS IS
PROBABLY THE BEST WE CAN HOPE FOR, UNLESS SIGNIFICANT
ARAB VOTE SWINGS TO OUR SIDE.
GODLEY

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